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its cultivation and the development of the trade. The zone of the banana nearly girdles the earth and its régime in many lands is here described. We have heard much of the banana in Africa but Sir Harry Johnson is quoted in this book as saying that while the plantain is widely cultivated in that continent, the banana is not common and is of recent introduction, Arab or Portuguese.

Cocoa: Its Cultivation and Preparation. By W. H. Johnson. Imperial Inst. Handbooks. ix and 186 pp., index. John Murray, London, 1912. 5s. 9 x 6.

Mr. Johnson says that the cacao tree thrives best in a hot, equable, moist climate with a well-distributed rainfall. Its cultivation is limited to lands lying between 20° N. lat. and 20° S. lat. Within these parallels the industry is seldom profitable at a higher elevation than 2,000 feet, nor where a protracted dry season occurs. As it is, there are more than 2,000,000 acres under cacao cultivation.

With this important industry the author deals in a careful and detailed manner. Among the many topics are the climatic and soil requirements of cacao trees, laying out a plantation, shading and inter-crops, propagation and general cultivation, fertilizing, diseases, harvesting, fermentation, washing and sun-drying, amount of yield, initial and running expenses of a plantation, manufacture and uses of cocoa. The work is illustrated with photographs.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

All About Coconuts. By Roland Belfort and A. J. Hoyer. xii and 201 pp. Ills., index. St. Catherine Press, London, 1914. 6s. 9 x 6.

The cultivation of the cocoanut is one of the great and growing industries. Its annual value is now twice that of the rubber industry and has nearly doubled in the past few years. This book gives a full account of the cocoanut and its various products, its commercial value, diseases, pests, development and profits of the industry, fertilization, methods of marketing, etc.

The Farmer of To-morrow. By Frederick I. Anderson. vii and 308 pp. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1913. $1.50. 7½ x 5½.

In a recent address before a conservation congress, Ex-President Taft predicted that the United States will have attained a population of 200,000,000 in another fifty years, at the present rate of increase. This being true, can enough food products be raised in the United States to feed this multitude? Mr. Anderson shows that enough food products can be raised. He points out that less than one-half of the 900,000,000 acres owned by the farmer of to-day is improved; and nearly two-thirds of this land, counted as farm land, has not yet been called on to produce food. Also, there are swamps, forests, arid, and semi-arid lands that can be reclaimed and made productive. Thus without increasing the efficiency of its cultivated land, the United States still possesses enough resources of land as yet untilled, to feed double the population of to-day.

With the subject of our present farming system and the reclamation of our waste areas, the author deals at length, treating these questions from an economic viewpoint. Having solved the problem regarding the acreage necessary to support the people of the United States in the rather near future, the author takes up another issue of vital importance. According to the most generally accepted theory of soil fertility the elements necessary for plant growth must be added to the soil or the soil will eventually become infertile. These food elements have been added in great part by minerals mined from the earth. These deposits, however, will become exhausted, and with no added commercial fertilizer, great areas of farm land will cease to produce crops, simply because the food upon which the plant exists is no longer in the soil. A recent theory has been advanced, supported with numerous experiments by the United States Bureau of Soils, that does away with the gloomy prospect of ultimate starvation. The new theory states that potash, phosphorus, and calcium are present in the soil in inexhaustible quantities and are